CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

TEENAGE SAFE DRIVING AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, public awareness of the hazards of inexperienced and/or alcohol impaired driving has been increased through the collaborative efforts of the state government and national organizations and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida appreciate the local citizen activist groups such as The Dori Slosberg Foundation and Florida Driver Education Programs who help promote teen driver safety and the Dori Slosberg Foundation has developed a teen driver safety program for teens and parents throughout Florida to spread awareness and information on safe driving practices;

WHEREAS, motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death among teenagers in Florida and the nation, accounting for 38 percent of all deaths in that age group; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 approximately 36,000 teenagers incurred non-fatal injuries due to motor vehicle accidents and more than 479 people were killed in accidents where a teen was driving; and

WHEREAS, teen traffic crashes are the number one killer of teens in Florida. Tampa, Orlando and Jacksonville were on the top of the list for the 50 US cities for deadly accidents involving teens; and

WHEREAS, the suffering caused by inexperienced and/or impaired driving touches the lives of countless families and needless emotional anguish from these tragedies far exceeds any dollar amount associated with crashes and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, every individual makes a strong commitment to ensure safe and cautious driving practices by new, young drivers who may be too inexperienced behind the wheel to avoid accidents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing April 20-25, 2009 as *Teenage Safe Driving Awareness Week.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 26th day of January, in the year two thousand nine.

Governor